

P L A Y B I L L

National
Dance
Institute's

FAT

City

AT
NEWARK SYMPHONY HALL
NEWARK, NJ

New Jersey Performing Arts Center



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CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
GOVERNOR

May 12, 1994

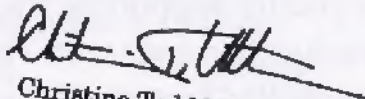
Dear Friends:

I am pleased to offer my greetings and best wishes to all those attending these performances of "Fat City," the inaugural production of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center's Arts Education program. By supporting the public-private sponsorship represented by the NJPAC you have demonstrated your commitment to the arts and cultural awareness, enriching the lives of the people of New Jersey and the region.

With the opening season scheduled for 1996-97, we can all look forward to the continuing renaissance of New Jersey's cultural heritage. We are glad you have chosen to be a part of this vital enterprise.

Thank you and all the best.

Sincerely yours,

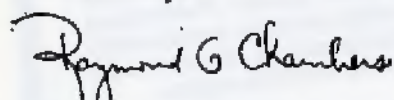

Christine Todd Whitman
Governor

Welcome messages from the Co-Chairmen of the Board, New Jersey Performing Arts Center

Fat City, our first arts education initiative, sets the stage for the greatness to come in 1996 when the New Jersey Performing Arts Center opens. I grew up in Newark and feel a special tie to this City. There is an abundance of untapped talent that exists in Newark and in the State of New Jersey.

NJPAC is an institution that places the children and families at the heart of its overall artistic mission. It will be a beacon for the city of Newark and a place for many generations to experience the enrichment, quality, and diversity of the arts. Thank you for attending the *Fat City* performance; I know you will enjoy it.

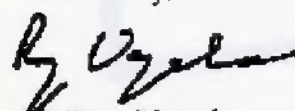
Sincerely,


Ray Chambers

Welcome and thank you for supporting the New Jersey Performing Arts Center's premiere arts education endeavor. The impact of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) artistically, educationally, and economically is coming to fruition. As we can see through *Fat City*, NJPAC will showcase the talents of many New Jerseyans—large and small.

In addition to performance opportunities, the Center will create many hundreds of construction and permanent jobs in the State. It will also bring an estimated 650,000 patrons to Newark each year, thereby making economic revitalization for this city inevitable. New Jersey needs and deserves a world-class performing arts center that can stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the best in the world. We are working hard to deliver such an institution.

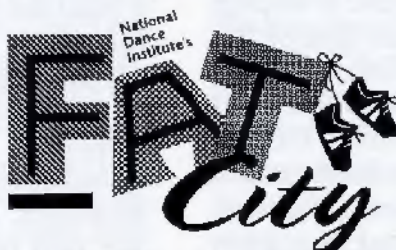
Sincerely,


P. Roy Vagelos

NEWARK SYMPHONY HALL

Friday Evening, May 13, 1994, at 7:00 p.m.

New Jersey Performing Arts Center and **National Dance Institute**
present



SPONSORED BY A&P

Conceived, Written, and Choreographed by

Jacques d'Amboise

Co-Artistic Director

Ellen Weinstein

Directed by

Cynthia Penn-Henderson

Directorial Assistants/Dance Teachers

Paul Hilliard McRae

Deborah Mitchell

New Jersey Ballet

Premiere Dance Theater

Original Music and Lyrics by

Jacques d'Amboise

George Balanchine

Judy Collins

Lee Norris

Christopher d'Amboise

Martin Charnin

Jerome Korman

Arthur Schwartz

Arranged and Conducted by

Jerome Korman

Set Design by
Red Grooms

Costumes by
Andrea Gibbs

Costumer
Judith Lundberg

Lighting Design by
Kathy Kaufmann

Starring

JAMIE STATON

JOVITA TOLBERT

TANEKA HOWELL

Featuring

Narrator/Solo Vocalists

Kay Gayner

William F. Hubbard

200 Children from Newark and Union Schools

and from

Fat City

"The Band"

Jack Bashkow

Rick DePofi

Quintin Franklin

Charles Kohlmeyer

Ron Tooley

"The Chorus"

Clifford Cooper

Sabrynaah Pope

Eilene Rockette

"The Dancers"

Antoinne Cleveland

Nicholas de Nicolangelo

Robert Martinez

Bilal Raybon

Levi Wilson III

Sets, costumes, and curriculum guides for Fat City are sponsored by

Philip Morris Companies Inc. and Kraft General Foods

Fat City was originally produced in New York for National Dance Institute's 1982 Event of the Year.

With orchestrations by Lee Norris.

Music for that production courtesy of Robinsdale Music Company.

Who's Who

Jacques d'Amboise (*Founder & Artistic Director of NDI*) was a principal dancer with



the New York City Ballet for 32 years and is widely recognized as one of the finest ballet dancers of our time. He has appeared in numerous films, including *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, *Carousel*, *Off Beat*, and the 1984 Academy Award-winning

He Makes Me Feel Like Dancin', which documented his work with NDI. He has also served as dean of dance at SUNY, Purchase and as an associate professor at U.C. Santa Barbara. For his efforts to bring quality arts education into the mainstream of the education process, Mr. d'Amboise has been honored with numerous awards, including seven honorary doctoral degrees, the 1990 MacArthur Fellowship, the Paul Robeson Award for Excellence in the Field of the Humanities and The 1993 Award for Distinguished Service to the Arts from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Ellen Weinstein (*Co-Artistic Director of NDI*), began teaching and choreographing



for NDI in 1986. As Artistic Consultant to NDI's Outreach Programs, she has set works in San Francisco; Philadelphia; Boston; Austin; and internationally in Russia; and India. She served as Artistic Director for NDI National Residency Pro-

grams in Trenton, NJ, Santa Fe, NM and Washinton D.C. Ms. Weinstein choreographed and directed NDI's 1992 & 1993 Events Of The Year, featuring 1,000+ performing NYC students at Madison Square Garden's Paramount Theater. Prior to joining NDI, she danced professionally with Savannah Ballet, Garden State Ballet and Joan Miller's Dance Players. Freelance credits include choreography for a Disney Film, a Nestle's commercial and Radio City Music Hall's production of Polaroid's 50th Anniversary Celebration. She received a BFA in Dance from SUNY, Purchase.

Cynthia Penn-Henderson (*Artistic Director*) began her studies as a four-year scholarship student at the North Carolina School of the Performing Arts. Her professional career began at age 16 in Agnes de Mille's

American Heritage Dance Theatre's special tribute to Sol Hurok at the Metropolitan Opera House, after which she was invited to join the Alvin Ailey Dance Company. She has taught and choreographed in Japan, France, Switzerland, and Morocco. In Venezuela she was resident choreographer for Radio Caracas T.V. and the founder/director of the Jazz Center of Caracas. She would like to dedicate her efforts in this show to her husband Joseph Henderson and their toddling son Jarrad.



Red Grooms (*Set Designer*), one of America's most celebrated artists, has had six one-man shows at NYC's Marlborough Gallery since 1985. His celebrated 1987 Whitney Museum exhibition included three-dimensional streetscapes of Manhattan and a sprawling walk-through subway car. The Pennsylvania Academy of Arts organized a retrospective of his work from 1957-1985, which traveled to MOCA in Los Angeles and the Tennessee State Museum in Nashville. He recently showed several Ruckus Manhattan and other "sculpto-picto-ramas" at Grand Central Terminal and currently has a retrospective touring 5 cities in Japan. In Washington, DC, his works have been featured at the Smithsonian Institution and in the Fendrick Gallery. Mr. Grooms has contributed set designs for NDI since 1980, including those for its productions of *Chakra*, *The Shooting Of Dan McGrew*, *Meilleurs Amis*, and *The Creation Of The World*. He also designed both costumes and sets for the NDI film *We Real Cool*. Mr. Grooms has been a member of the NDI advisory board since 1988 and in the fall of 1993 was honored at the second annual Artists for Artists NDI benefit. He enjoys the challenge of bringing his art to a new public, especially children, and they respond with enthusiasm and joy.

Jerome Korman (*Music Director*), has been National Dance Institute's music director for projects in New York City, Washington, DC, Palm Desert, Trenton, and Venice, Italy. He has also arranged and con-



ducted NDI's performance on Phil Donahue's 25th Anniversary Special. With Young Audiences N.Y. Mr. Korman teaches songwriting workshops for students of all ages. His last workshop as a joint venture between Young Audiences NY and The New York Grammy Host Committee which culminated with a recording at The Hit Factory and a performance for Mayor Giuliani. Mr. Korman has written music for *As the World Turns*, *Another World* and recently co-wrote a dance single, *Let The Rain Fall* released last fall in Europe.

Christopher d'Amboise (*Composer*) was a principal dancer with the New York City Ballet, co-starred on Broadway with Bernadette Peters in *Song and Dance*, founded the Off Center Ballet Company, and is currently the artistic director of the Pennsylvania Ballet. He originated the role of Legs Diamond in the first NDI production of *Fat City* at New York's Felt Forum in 1982.

George Balanchine (*Composer*) was the founder and artistic director of New York City Ballet and is considered to be one of the greatest choreographers of this century.

Martin Charnin (*Composer*) is the acclaimed creator of numerous musical productions, including *Annie* and *Annie Warbucks*.

Judy Collins (*Composer*) is a writer, film director, lyricist, composer, and a singer of legendary popularity and acclaim.

Lee Norris (*Composer*), an esteemed composer and lyricist, is a charter member of the NDI family. He orchestrated the original production of *Fat City* for NDI's 1982 Event of the Year at New York's Felt Forum.

Arthur Schwartz (*Composer*) was a popular songwriter who numbered among his hits *That's Entertainment* and *Dancing in the Dark*.

Andrea Gibbs (*Costume Designer*) has been involved with NDI for three years. She has designed, built, and supervised costumes for thousands of dancing children performing in numerous special events and projects, including NDI summer institutes, national residencies, and Phil Donahue's 25th Anniversary Special. Ms. Gibbs has also designed for the Cocteau Repertory Theater in New York City and currently works with VH-1.

Judith Lundburg (*Costumer*) received her M.F.A. in costume design from Boston Uni-

versity in 1993 before her recent relocation to NYC. Ms. Lundberg's professional credits include costume design for *Henry IV, Part 1* for American Players Theatre last summer and work with The Utah Shakespeare Festival, Pioneer Theatre Co., Santa Fe Opera, Huntington Theatre in Boston, and American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge.

Kathy Kaufmann (*Lighting Designer*) has worked in a variety of theatrical and dance venues including The Joyce Theatre, BAM, DIA, St. Mark's Church and Jacob's Pillow. Her recent projects include designs for Gina Gibney, David Parker, Penny Hutchinson, Stephan Koplowitz and Jody Oberfelder. Ms. Kaufmann is also a Production Manager for *Dancing In The Streets*.

Kay Gayner (*Narrator/Solo Vocalist*) has worked with NDI on innumerable projects in recent years and is "a devoted fan" of the program. She toured with the national company of *A Chorus Line*, appearing as Deanna Morales, and her New York credits include *White Water* at the Performing Garage, *West Side Story* and *Christmas with Peanut and Fran* at Playwrights Horizons, *The Richard Foreman Trilogy*, *Gorgeous Mosaic* at Circle Rep, and her original cabaret act, *Slumber Party*, at Don't Tell Mama. Last fall Ms. Gayner appeared in *Three Years She Grew* which was created for her.

William F. Hubbard (*Narrator/Solo Vocalist*) has performed in major concert halls and theaters across the country. He was the music director for The Wesley Boyd Gospel Music Workshop Choir, the first gospel group to perform at the Midem Festival in Cannes, France. Mr. Hubbard has traveled with many gospel artists, including Tramaine Hawkins and Richard Smallwood; done background vocals with George Michael; and composed the Grammy-nominated song *I Love You*, recorded by Edwin Hawkins. His works have been featured at the Kennedy Center with the Choral Arts Society of Washington, The Men and Women of Gospel, and in many other concerts. "Jesus Christ is Lord so I must share my gifts."

Jamie Staton (*Legs Diamond*) is a seventh-grade student at Shaw Junior High School. Jamie has a particular interest in science and was honored to be the U.S. Representative at the Young Astronauts International Conference in 1991. When not studying, he tries to find time to combine his enthusiasm for athletics with a keen interest in the performing arts. He is a percussionist with his

school band which is currently preparing for an appearance in Canada. Jamie, a scholarship student to the NDI '92 & '93 NY Summer Institutes, was featured at the Kennedy Center in NDI's '92 Dancing Up A Story and as Legs Diamond in the '93 production of Fat City.

Jovita Aurorah Tolbert (*Lovely Kitty*) is a high honors student at Grace Brethren Christian School and a member of the youth section of the National Council of Negro Women. Ms. Tolbert acts and models professionally and recently appeared with the All America Dancers at the Hula Bowl '94 in Honolulu. Jovita participated in the NDI '92 & '93 Summer Institutes in NYC, and travelled to Los Angeles with other NDI students to promote the PBS series Dancing. A student at the Cindy King Dance Studio, she will be presented for the Grade Three Cecchetti Exam this month.

Taneka Howell (*Mr. Fats*) is a fifth-grade student at the Central 5 School in Vauxhall. She is an alto in the First Baptist Church Choir, and enjoys performing so much that she is considering becoming a dancer, actress or public speaker. Ms. Howell's hobbies include playing with her younger sister Veronica, roller skating and collecting posters.

Andrew Feigin (*Production Stage Manager*) has stage managed the National Dance Institute's Event Of The Year as well as numerous residencies since 1988. He stage manages productions at Radio City Music Hall including The Christmas Spectacular and The Easter Extravaganza. On Broadway, he has stage managed for Phantom Of The Opera, Cats and Nick and Nora.

Andrew Bryant (*Stage Manager*), an NDI alumnus, is a student at Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of the Arts. His credits include Our Country's Good and Burn This at Rutgers, Ail at George Street Playhouse, and Distant Fires at the Circle in the Square-Downtown. He has also done many productions for NDI in Trenton, New Jersey; Santa Fe, New Mexico; Washington, DC, and New York City.

Dianne Holly (*Newark/Union Producer*) brings an eclectic background to the National Dance Institute. She was trained in acting at San Francisco's famed American Conservatory Theatre and has acted in television's Maude and What's Happening! Ms. Holly has worked in production at the New York Shakespeare Festival, Mel Gibson's feature film The Man Without a Face, and The Equalizer. Dianne lives in

Portland, Maine, where she works as a Voice and Diction coach for the Portland Stage Company, complementing her coaching with work in television, film and commercials.

Paul Hilliard McRae (*Dance Assistant*) began his ballet training at the San Francisco School of Ballet at the age of 9 and, after moving to New Jersey, continued his studies with New Jersey School of Ballet. At the age of 15 he received a summer scholarship from the school of American Ballet. The following fall he became an apprentice to New Jersey Ballet. Upon finishing high school Mr. McRae joined Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, where he danced for 4 years, performing solo roles in varied repertory. While in Pittsburgh he also attended Point Park College. He returned to New Jersey in 1978 and rejoined New Jersey Ballet. He has performed numerous solo and principle roles from the majority of NJB's repertory. Mr. McRae is currently Assistant to the Director of New Jersey Ballet.

Deborah Mitchell (*Dance Assistant*), a native of St. Louis, MO, has made Newark, NJ her home for the past 18 years. She danced in the Broadway musical Black and Blue, tours with Cab Calloway and his orchestra as one of The Rhythm Queens, was a featured tap dancer in the motion picture The Cotton Club and is Artistic Director of The New Jersey Tap Ensemble. Ms. Mitchell passionately believes in the tremendous power of the arts in children's lives. Due to this she has taught both movement and acting for Theatre Workshop/Peppermint Players in Newark, NJ for the past 15 years, movement in children's day camps during the summer, and currently teaches tap at Premier Dance Theatre in Montclair, NJ and master tap classes and workshops in rhythm tap throughout NJ, NY and London.

David Davis (*Accompanist*) is a pianist, composer and teacher active with many schools and arts institutions in the state. He is a dance accompanist for Raritan Valley Community college and Somerset County Vocational Tech. He is a vocal accompanist for Middlesex County Arts High School and the Symposium singers choral society. He teaches piano privately and at the Kent Place School in Summit, where he also teaches a class in computers and music. David has received commissions for works from the modern dance companies Center Dance Collective and Dance Network. Two pieces - Mechanica and You Can't Choose

Your Family - are in the repertoire for Dance Network's current season. Mr. Davis has formal classical training and also improvises jazz. As a freelance pianist he performs in different venues including chamber music, solo recitals, rock bands and club dates, jazz groups, musicals and of course dance accompaniment. This is his third year working with NDI.

Steve Kramer (*Accompanist*) has worked with NDI for 5 years in the Trenton, New Jersey school system. He's toured with the Ice Capades as Assistant Conductor/Pianist. Travelling across the U.S. and Canada with the Artie Shaw Big Band led to Steve's appearance in the Academy Award Winning documentary *Time Is All You've Got*. Numerous concerts include Avery Fisher Hall, the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, the Hollywood Bowl with Mel Torme, and the 1984 Presidential Inauguration at Kennedy Center.

Michelle Salzman (*Accompanist*) brings an extensive musical background to NDI. A recipient of a masters degree in vocal coaching and accompanying from Westminster Choir College and of a scholarship at The Franz Schubert Institute in Baden, Austria, she has worked as staff accompanist for the Music Department of Montclair State College and at The New School for the Arts in Montclair. She has been the Assistant Musical Director for productions of *The Servant*, *Mistress and Amahl* and the *Night Visitors*. Her expertise has taken her to Florence, Italy, where she co-directed and accompanied a seminar for flutists. Other professional affiliations include the New Jersey Oratorio Society, Amato Opera, State Repertory Opera, New Rochelle Opera, Opera and Musical Theatre International and the Princeton Ballet.

Roman Shevchuk (*Accompanist*) completed the Music Performance Program of the Ukranian Music Institute of America in 1985, and then continued his classical piano studies with Samuel Dilworth-Leslie of

Rutgers University. For the past five years Mr. Shevchuk has performed primarily as a dance accompanist. Currently with New Jersey School of Ballet, he has also accompanied the Roma Pryma-Bohachewsky Dance Workshop as well as the Somerset County Vocational-Technical Institute.

Clifford A. Cooper (*Chorus*) is a recipient of the Paul Roberson Scholarship to study music at Fayetteville State University, where he graduated with a B.S. in both Music and Business. Mr. Cooper has toured with several Gospel and Jazz ensembles across the U.S., Europe and South America. Currently, Mr. Cooper is the Director of Marketing and Sales for Mandl Medical School in New York City.

Sabrynaah Pope (*Chorus*), a native of Brooklyn, now lives in New Jersey. An actress and singer, she is an active member of the National Black touring Circuit, and has appeared in *That Gospel Feeling!*, *God's Trombones!*, *I Have a Dream*, and the movie *Lean On Me*. A former member of the New Jersey Mass Choir, she is currently working on an album with Keith Childress. Sabrynaah has been on the dance charts with her single *It Works For Me*, and has an upcoming double record single *Hold On*. She enjoys dancing and travel, and gives praise and honor to GOD for her talents and family, especially her Mother/Friend, Evelyn Pope of North Carolina.

Eilene Rockette (*Chorus*) has been surrounded by music all of her life. An accomplished clarinetist, Eilene studied jazz education at The New School (NY) and William Paterson College (NJ). While studying in the metro area, she collaborated with the likes of Rufus Reid, Norman Simmons and task master Harold Mabern. Eilene has performed at the 1988 JVC Jazz Festival with the Cassandra Wilson and Steve Coleman All Stars, the Blue Note, Lincoln Center's Jazz American Art Form program and the Village Gate.

National Dance Institute was founded in 1976 by New York City Ballet principal dancer Jacques d'Amboise in the belief that the arts have a unique power to engage children and to motivate them towards excellence. NDI has since grown into one of the nation's largest arts education organizations. Each year, the programs of NDI inspire thousands of inner-city school children from diverse ethnic, social, and economic backgrounds, including children with physical and emotional challenges. Using professional artists and a distinctive combination of dance classes, performances, and educational materials, NDI fosters a heightened awareness of arts and self in the children it serves.

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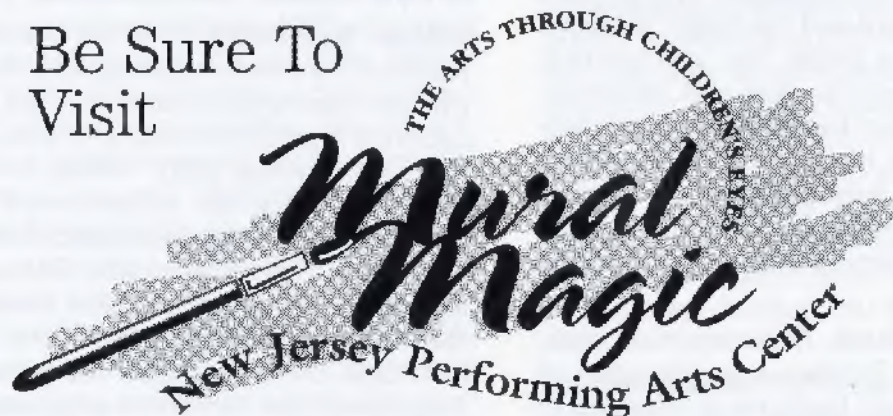
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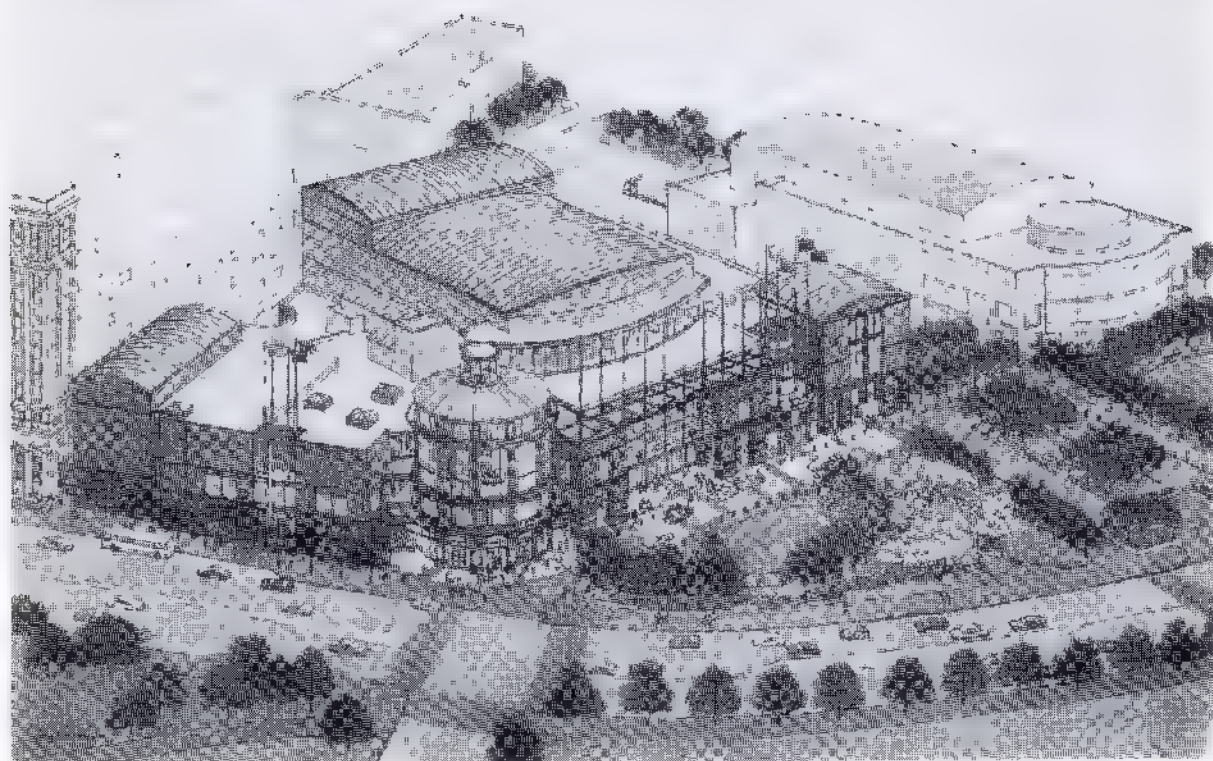
As a world-class cultural complex for the nation and the world's best artists, NJPAC will be a focus of pride and recognition for all New Jerseyans.

As a center stage for New Jersey's best performing arts organizations, NJPAC will elevate and spotlight the State's extraordinary cultural achievements.

As a setting for multi-cultural artistry of national and international standing, NJPAC will provide access for people of diverse backgrounds to come together to share what is joyful and transcendent in life.

As a cultural center which puts children and their families at the very heart of its mission, NJPAC will remain a place of access and involvement at all stages of an individual's lifetime and provide a creative environment that nurtures exploration, discovery, and discipline in the production and performance of the arts—and in life generally.

As a venue for music, drama, dance, opera and film, it features a 2700-seat multipurpose hall, the Victoria Theater (a 500-seat playhouse), banquet and rehearsal space, restaurants, a community room and a two-acre public plaza.



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* Swat Team dancers from each school who have been selected to participate in extra classes after school and on Saturday.

The NJPAC Arts Education Program "A Sea of Yellow Schoolbuses"

Twice a day. Five days a week. Stepping off buses and toward a new adventure, hundreds of Newark's children, and their counterparts from throughout New Jersey, will arrive at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center to begin, what will be for many, a lifelong fascination with the soaring spirit of the performing arts. It is toward that vision that the New Jersey Performing Arts Center's Education Program has dedicated its efforts.

NJPAC has undertaken a comprehensive planning process, which is to be completed by December 31, 1994, to provide a carefully developed ten-year Action Plan (1995-2004) that will serve as the blueprint for implementing a program of "LIFELONG CREATIVE LEARNING" at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center.

Concurrent with the planning process, NJPAC has begun to implement early action projects, hold Arts Education Resource Team conferences and forums, conduct extensive research, and formulate collaborations with arts and community organizations to demonstrate its commitment to the inclusion of arts education as chief among the Center's mandates.

The mission of the NJPAC Education Program is to provide New Jersey residents with the opportunity to participate in high quality arts experiences that are designed to stimulate creative expression, celebrate the rich cultural diversity of the arts, excite the imagination, and enhance the joy of learning for children, parents and teachers.

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